DOCKET NO: 245819USO TRADEMENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

VIETHI EIGHTON OF

SHIGERU OHNO, ET AL.

SERIAL NO: 10/717,708

FILED: NOVEMBER 21, 2003

FOR: METHOD FOR PREVENTING

MINERALIZATION IN THE

PERIODONTAL LIGAMENT (PDL)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Communication dated March 29, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.